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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 2372.0071

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

APR 24 2001

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In re Application of:

Colin Louis MASTERS et al.

Application No.: 09/624,965

Filed: July 25, 2000

For: METHOD FOR TREATING  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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) Group Art Unit: 1646

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) Examiner: O. Chernyshev  
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APR 19 2001

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter this amendment prior to examination of this application.

Please cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 15-21, 25 and 26.

Please add the following claims:

~~28. A method for treating Alzheimer's Disease in a patient comprising the step of  
subjecting said patient to a therapeutically effective amount of an agent which is  
capable of crossing the blood brain barrier, wherein said agent modulates the  
interaction within the central nervous system between a divalent or trivalent cation  
and/or heparin with amyloid precursor protein (APP) of said patient.~~

29. The method according to claim 28, wherein the cation is a divalent cation.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein a therapeutically effective  
amount of a zinc-binding agent is administered to said patient.